

**To:** Hiser, David[Hiser.David@epa.gov]; Conway, Sheila[Conway.Sheila@epa.gov]; Devabhaktuni, Kumar[Devabhaktuni.Kumar@epa.gov]; Fertitta, Mike[fertitta.mike@epa.gov]; Sanders, Timothy[Sanders.Timothy@epa.gov]; Stockton, David[Stockton.David@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Warren, Christy[warren.christy@epa.gov]  
**From:** McMillin, Rick  
**Sent:** Mon 8/10/2015 7:11:11 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Metals Analysis Info

Based on this article, we may need to include mercury:

For days, water contaminated with arsenic, mercury, and lead has been flowing fast from an abandoned gold mine in the US state of Colorado. Now, the government agency that caused the spill during a clean-up operation has said it is bigger than first thought.

The spill at the defunct Gold King Mine began on Wednesday, when a crew from the Environmental Protection Agency, which was clearing debris and trying to find the source of existing harmful leakages into the local water supply, breached a mine wall.

Waste water burst from the breach, flooding into Cement Creek and then flowing downstream into the Animas River.

<http://www.routefifty.com/2015/08/toxic-spill-epa-gold-king-mine-spill/118989/>

**From:** McMillin, Rick  
**Sent:** Monday, August 10, 2015 1:25 PM  
**To:** Hiser, David; Conway, Sheila; Devabhaktuni, Kumar; Fertitta, Mike; Sanders, Timothy; Stockton, David  
**Subject:** FW: Metals Analysis Info

Fyi. More questions we are asking. If you can think of anything else, let me know.

**From:** McMillin, Rick  
**Sent:** Monday, August 10, 2015 1:24 PM  
**To:** Burkhardt, Mark  
**Cc:** McQuiddy, David; Marvelyn Humphrey; Christy Warren; David Stockton  
**Subject:** RE: Metals Analysis Info

More questions have come up in our discussions:

- do you have an analyte list?
- does it include mercury?
- can ESAT be used?
- detection limit requirements?
- program (CWA, SDWA, RCRA, SF) or method required?
- weekend or holiday work?
- any thoughts on how long this will be?
- fully internal QA reviewed final data in 36 or 48 hours, or is this preliminary data?
- Do you also want final hardcopy results at the same time as EDD?
- Is SEDD 2a okay for Scribe (we have used it in the past)

**From:** McMillin, Rick  
**Sent:** Monday, August 10, 2015 1:02 PM  
**To:** Burkhardt, Mark  
**Subject:** RE: Metals Analysis Info

Mark,

Are there any special requirements, like detection limits or method to be used? Also, how soon might samples start arriving and will the work continue through the weekends/holidays?

Rick.

**From:** Burkhardt, Mark  
**Sent:** Monday, August 10, 2015 12:51 PM  
**To:** RST Lab Directors  
**Subject:** Metals Analysis Info  
**Importance:** High

**Hello everyone.**

**By now you have seen or read about the accidental discharge along the Animas River in Colorado. I am asking you as part of the regional lab network if you may be able to help with metals analysis. What I need from each of you by tomorrow morning (sorry for the short time frame) is the following:**

- 1) Capacity for total and dissolved metals with a 36 hour turn-around time (receive at 10am and report out by the following day by close of business).**
- 2) Capacity for total and dissolved metals with a 48 hour turn-around time (receive at 10am and report out by 10 am the 2<sup>nd</sup> following day).**

**The total sampling time could be for several weeks and the data would have to be in a Scribe data format. Thanks for your reply and please only respond with numbers you can sustain over long periods of time. Thanks, Mark**

Mark Burkhardt, Ph.D.

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“We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used when we created them.”

Albert Einstein